

## Walk and Enjoy Bountiful Nature

### Extreme Nature Trek at Kyogamisaki

On May 27<sup>th</sup>, Community Development Support Center NPO (Board Chairman: Tadahiro Nakae) conducted the “Kyogamisaki Extreme Nature Trek”. Participants listened to the guide’s exposition while walking a 3-kilometer-long promenade near Kyogamisaki. They enjoyed bountiful nature such as wild foliage and the beautiful coast.

At the tip of the *misaki* (cape), a huge boulder made out of column-shaped joints juts skyward and resembles a sort of *kyohon* (sutra book). This is said to be the origin of the name “Kyogamisaki”.

Hiroshige Kawamura participated with his wife. He commented, “This was the first time I have come this close to the coast. The huge boulder was overwhelmingly impressive. We were able to learn about wild grass and flowers in a fun way. I would love to do this again.”

Junji Hatanaka, the guide for the day, shared a few words, “Bountiful nature is the treasure of Tango. In order to introduce this to many people, I studied to become a guide. I really want to help convey the charm of each season in Kyotango.”

This support center conducts guided walks all year round. For any questions, please contact the Community Development Support Center NPO (0772-75-1411).



## High Schoolers Learn How to Plant Rice

### Kumihama High School Students Plant Rice with Kabutoyama Elementary School Students

On May 16<sup>th</sup> at Kumihama High School's paddy field (500 square meters), 9 Second-year students from the production department of Kumihama High and 29 fifth-year students from Kabutoyama Elementary School planted rice together.

At first, the smaller children had trouble planting the rice by hand, but they asked the high schoolers for help and quickly got used to the process. In the blink of an eye the whole field was filled with green seedlings.

Haru Inagaki, a student who planted rice for the first time, commented, "There were some tricky parts, but I was able to plant the rice well. I am looking forward to harvesting the crop." Akari Agino guided the participants and reported, "We are going to closely monitor the growth of the seedlings to maximize yields."



## Protecting the Ocean from Microplastics

### Amino High School Students hold “Trash-lympics” at the Concert of Hadashi

“The garbage you pick up is your ticket in.” On June third at Kotohiki Beach, the “25<sup>th</sup> Concert of Hadashi” (conducted by its own executive committee) was held. Underneath summer-like sunlight, participants cleaned up the beach and enjoyed a concert.

The theme this time was “Microplastics”. Microplastics are plastic shards smaller than 5 millimeters in size and are easily consumed by seabirds and fish. This plastic stays in their bodies and affects them in negative ways.

Amino High School’s Volunteer Club (53 members) wanted to provide an enjoyable way to understand garbage, so they planned and conducted various events. Of which, the “Trash-lympics” and trash workshop stood out. Those in attendance competed to see who could pick up the most plastic, and were able to make their own “sea trash” in the interactive trash workshop. Altogether, it was a successful attempt at raising the awareness of ocean garbage.

Club advisor Noa Imai commented, “We want to create a spark that encourages people to tackle small, controllable tasks. For example, we want to show the current state of trash in the ocean and ask people not to litter.”



## Local Advertisement Grand Prix

### To Be the Best of All 46 Prefectures

The “Shima Zenbu O~kina Festival: 10<sup>th</sup> Okinawa International Film Festival” was held in April. Within this event, there was a smaller attraction called the “JIMOT CM REPUBLIC 2018”. There, a commercial created by Ichiba Azumata was put up against other commercials from all over Japan. Mr. Ichiba is a member of the Challenge Tsuneyoshi Department Store Executive Committee and boasted a standout piece at the event. On June 8<sup>th</sup>, Mr. Ichiba and his cast, the “Sennorikyu”, reported their victory at the JIMOT CM REPUBLIC to Mayor Misaki with their award in hand.

In the commercial itself, a customer visits a real estate agency and hears about Kyotango from the clerk. At first, the customer was put off by the lack of access to the area, but after hearing about how Kyotango residents treat you like family, he makes the decision to move to Kyotango. The smiling faces of the locals really stood out in the film. Emphasis on peace of mind rather than convenience was a large theme; Mr. Ichiba commented, “We captured the everyday life of Kyotango.” His cast, the Sennorikyu, also commented, “We didn’t expect to win at the Grand Prix, so we were very surprised.”

The commercial can be seen in its entirety on the city’s home page.



## Film-Watching over Tea

### Kurobe Café Held at Kurobe no Ibasho 「Himawari」

The Kurobe Café opened on June 10<sup>th</sup> at Kurobe no Ibasho 「Himawari」 (previously the Kurobe Nursery). Employees of the venue, welfare committee members, women's groups and other organizations planned this event in hopes of creating an environment where Kurobe residents could meet each other and grow together as a community. This marks the second time this event has been conducted and around 30 people came to participate.

Shusaku Yoshioka, committee chairman of the Kurobe Welfare Promotion Committee and planner of the event, commented, “Last time we brought in pianists and had a great time listening to music and signing along. This time we wanted to throw an anime movie night so children could have fun as well. I am happy that everyone had a good time.” One of the participants also shared their experience, “It was my first time, but the movie was entertaining and I was able to chat with a bunch of people. I want to come again next time since it was so fun!”



## Walking the Town While Looking Down

### Rubbed Copy Workshop

“Rubbed Copies” are imprints made by pressing Japanese paper against textured designs. Black ink is then used to copy and preserve the pattern. A workshop was held teaching how to make these rubbed copies at the Otabi Ichiba; participants walked the streets of Mineyama looking for patterns to replicate. Artist Atsuko Arai taught the proper way to make rubbed copies and put theory into practice using physical objects such as man holes. One participant commented, “I was able to notice patterns and imprints that I never noticed before. We walked the town through a different lens and had a good time.

